Fall 2004

Crimpville Comments

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SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS 1977

IF YOU SEE A SCHOOL BUS - REMEMBER

When approaching a school bus which has stopped to take on or discharge passengers, the law now requires you to stop immediately

HISTORIC APPRECIATION DAY

On May 23rd, it was the privilege of the Historic Commission to honor 9 girls and their leaders of Troop # 120 for their work in the Museum.

The girls were striving for their BRONZE AWARD and they spent 3-6 hour days at the Historical Museum cataloging the artifacts which have been donated and collected by assorted citizens and members of the Commission.

This was a monumental job and beyond the capabilities of Commission members...We are eternally grateful.

A number of Town Officials were present along with families of the girls, as well as State Representative Jennifer Callahan and State Senator Richard Moore. All of us, gratefully appreciate their interest.

The girls were awarded plaques stating their accomplishments and each was presented a carnation. Refreshments were served.

ETA

Hayley O'Glisher
Amanda Dwelly
Genevieve Cote
Victoria Cote
Alexa DiAntonio
Brisa Consoletti
Lucia McLaughlin
Angela Sowle
Devin Woodman

LEADERS

Jackie Cote
Paula Saliba

FOND MEMORIES

A familiar land mark was destroyed by fire during the summer. Although it was not in Bellingham, it had close ties to many town residents. Lowell's Dairy was a land mark for many years. Many high school kids found their first jobs there. Mr. Lowell, fondly known as Putt, hired many of them over the years. My daughter and several of her friends worked there during summer vacation and some evenings after school. Putt often mentioned that the Bellingham kids were his best workers.

My first recollection of Lowell's was when I was a kid. My dad had a small dairy farm and so did our neighbor, who would pick up the big cans of milk and take them, along with his own, to Lowell's. This same neighbor was a bachelor and would often pile all of us kids in his car on a summer evening and take us to Lowell's for ice cream. It was made right there and the best ice cream around.

Many years later , when work at Draper's was slack, my husband got a part time job there. Mendon, being a small town like Bellingham, was a place where people had known each other for years. Lowell's was the place to go for an early morning cup of coffee, breakfast or a late night snack. The fried clams and fish and chips couldn't be beat.

One day my husband asked for my spaghetti sauce recipe so pasta could be on the menu once a week. He'd also bring home a roast for me to cook. He always warned me not to cremate it because he knew I liked beef well done. One night when he was due to work, something came up and he couldn't go in so my daughter took his place. She was soon hired. Soon after that several of her friends were hired. In fact, she met her husband there after she locked him in the freezer. Two of her friends also met their husbands there. During the summer I'd take my mother and youngest son Sunday evenings to the "Dairy" for an ice cream.

One cold, winter night my neighbor hired a horse and sleigh and he, His wife, My husband and I went for a sleigh ride and ended up at Lowell's. Instead of hot coffee, we all ordered ice cream. As we ate it, we could see the horse out the window with frost and icicles hanging from his whiskers.

Everyone liked Putt and we all grieved when he was killed. The town of Mendon had lost one of its best.

After the business was sold, a full scale restaurant opened. Friday nights would find a group from Bellingham pushing tables together, ready to enjoy a meal and conversation with friends. After church services Sunday mornings, many stopped there for breakfast. It was a meeting place for friends as they joined each other for a snack and visit.

Change is always hard to accept but such an abrupt change caused by fire is devastating. The town not only lost an important land mark but also a friend. Lowell's was an icon to Mendon like Ma Glockner's is to Bellingham.

F.M.M.

OCTOBER'S BRIGHT BLUE WEATHER

by

Helen Hunt Jackson

O sun and skies and clouds of June
And flowers of June together
Ye cannot rival for one hour
October's bright blue weather.

When loud the bumblebee makes haste
Belated, thriftless vagrant,
And goldenrod is dying fast,
And lanes with grapes are fragrant,

When gentians roll their fringes tight
To save them for the morning,
And chestnuts fall from satin burrs
Without a sound of warning;

When on the ground red apples lie
In piles like jewels shining
And redder still on old stone walls
Are leaves of woodbine twining.

When all the lovely wayside things
Their white-winged seeds are sowing,
And in the fields still green and fair,
Late aftermaths are growing.

When springs run low and on the brooks
In idle, golden freighting,
Bright leaves sink noiseless in the hush
Of woods, for winter waiting.

When comrades seek sweet country haunts
By twos and twos together,
And count like misers, hour by hour,
October's bright blue weather.

O sun and skies and flowers of June
Count all your boasts together
Love loveth best of all the year
October's bright weather.

VICTORIOUS BELLINGHAM CANDIDATES SWORN IN

. . . Town Clerk Lionel R. Trudeau swearing in newly elected town officials in Bellingham early today following announcement of final results in annual town election including, from left, William A. Spear, Henry Forget, Dr. Jean B. Petrin, R. Bernard Biron, David L. Tuttle Jr., Thomas B. Heavey, Thomas E. Nicholson, Richard C. Hill, Robert M. Chase and Albert A. Grenon.

TOWN ELECTION March 1, 1965

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE

Nov. 2, 2004

Girl Scout Troop #120 with State REpresentative Callahan and State Senator Moore

"The Harsh Defiance of Bellingham Against the British"

James J. Buckley

The decision of the colonists to fight for their independence is sometimes portrayed as having been a shock to the British Government. If so, that government could not have been reading its mail. For years prior to the outbreak of hostilities in 1775, virtually every town in the Bellingham area vehemently denied that Parliament had any right to tax the citizens of the Mass. colony. "Taxation Without Representation" was not just a handy slogan; the Colonists believed it.

What also infuriated them was the fact that England considered the colonists to be no better than the savages the colonists had attempted to subdue since they landed on these shores. This combination of arbitrary taxation and total disdain for the colonists, provoked some harsh words from towns. Among the most outspoken was Bellingham.

That town had additional reasons to be antagonistic to the Crown. It had been subjected to excessive ridicule from the British people and its leaders. While the British made fun of all the colonists, they seemed to especially enjoy poking fun at Bellingham.

The cause of the ridicule was due to nothing Bellingham's citizens had ever done. Rather it was due to the town's original name and its present one. Jacob Bartlett was supposed to have called the town "No Man's Land". The elaborately dressed gentry of England with their powdered wigs and boxes of snuff, were always eager to find some tidbit of gossip which would enable them to laugh at another's expense. So, when word reached England's shores--that a town in the Colony of Massachusetts had been named "No Man's Land", word spread rapidly and the town so named became the butt of numerous jokes, none of which were in the least complimentary.

If residents of the town had never heard about these "barbed" remarks, they would have been spared any indignation concerning these insults. After all, whatthey didn't know could not have hurt them. But part of the ploy used by the British people was to make certain that an insulting remark or joke got back to its victim. After all, they said, what's the use of making a cutting remark if the butt of the hurtful comment never knew he or she had been insulted? Part of the sadistic fun was to make the victim aware of the comment and then report the victim's reaction to the gentry and nobility. As a result, the town's citizens heard some of the cutting remarks about it being a genuine no man's land. But if the wags and so-called wits had expected unrestrained outbursts, they were disappointed. The townspeople held their collective tongues and didn't give their tormentors a chance to use them as the butt of further hilarity.

The attitudes of the British gentry and nobility toward the town did not appreciably improve when it acquired the name of Bellingham. The person who bore that name was not held in high esteem by the leaders of British Society. Indeed, despite the

fact that he was at one time the governor of Massachusetts, Richard Bellingham was feared and hated by many of the leaders of the colony. Itwas no boon, therefore to give the name of such a man to the town.(see future story for m ore details about Richard Bellingham.)

As a result of the barbs suffered by the earliest settlers of Bellingham concerning its first and its present names, that town had twice as many reasons as other towns to be hostile toward the British aristocracy both in England and Boston. It should not be any surprise to anyone, therefore, that the harshest words spoken against the unfair taxation, were spoken in Bellingham.

When Governor Hutchinson stated that Parliament had every right to impose taxes on the colonists, the towns reacted immediately, expressing their indignation forcefully. As the rebellious Samuel Adams sarcastically stated, "It must be placed to the credit of the Governor, that he has quickened a spirit of enquiry into the nature and end of government, and the connection of the colonies with Great Britain."

Bellingham flatly rebutted the governor's assertion of Parliaments universal legislative power. The town's fathers accused Hutchinson of using "ambiguous words", "dark riddles and obviously one-sided explanation to support an incredible view." Further, the town stated that the concept of unequal taxation rights was incomprehensible. Bellingham charged that this idea was not more than some British dandy's dainty way of suggesting that the colonists were merely the slaves of the British Government.

At the heart of this running disagreement between the colonists and the British Government during the years between 1770 and 1775, was the townspeople's quite literal understanding of the idea that a government rules by consent of the governed. Repeatedly, towns, including Bellingham, stated that consent was the only lawful basis for government. Bellingham publicly endorsed the statement made by Holden when it said,"The People of New England have never given the people of Britain any RIGHT of JURISDICTION over us. Consequently, we Deem it to be the most unwarrantable Usurpation and view it as an insufferable insult in the British Parliament that they assume a Legislative Authority over the American Colonies." But Bellingham was not satisfied to let that statement suffice. It initiated a letter which demanded to know that, if the colonies, or New England or Massachusetts, itself ever made a compact placing themselves within Parliament's jurisdiction, then Bellingham wanted to know, "when was it made, in what year, or what King's reign, orin what Book it is Recorded." Bellingham's point was that, plainly, no such compact had ever existed so Parliament's attempt to assert control over the colonis ts was entirely unconstitutional.

When Parliament suggested that the idea of consent was intended to be merely symbolic and that the colonists were always expected to rubber-stamp the decisions of Parliament, Bellingham and other towns denounced such an idea, calling it "absurd."

Bellingham also expressed its agreement with the statement made by another town that "allegiance is a relative term and like

Kingdoms and Commonwealths is local and has its bounds. We doubt not, our Forefathers soon as they landed here considered themselves as beyond the Jurisdiction of the Realm of England." The continued violation of the colonists rights by the British government might lead the Mass. towns to withdraw their allegiance from Britain.

While these statements were being made, the Boston Committee of Correspondence was carrying on direct talks with the British governmental representatives. But at no time during these talks and nowhere in the letters, was there any intimation that military means might have to be used to solve this continued and uncomfortable stalemate between the British Crown and it's colonies. However, Bellingham had no qualms about suggesting such a solution. The town admitted that Britain could send armed vessels and soldiers, to force the colonists to pay the taxes. But if Britain was considering such a course of action, it should be warned. "So may an armed Robber take from an unarmed Traveller all the Money he has with him but if the Robber is found out, it may Prove fatal to him." Indeed, if Britain decided to use force, Bellingham warned,"The Soldiers might come off like those that were Defeated a few years ago in General Braddock's fight, be Cut to Pieces and Destroyed."

Small wonder then that Bellingham was soon labeled as a hotbed of sedition by Governor Hutchinson and his supporters. The probable reason why the British forces didn't seek to quell such a rebellious attitude by occupying the town; was the distance of Bellingham from Boston. It was considered disadvantageous to travel all that distance to stop Bellingham from expressing such rebellious views. What neither Bellingham nor the British knew was that in less than two years, the colonists would be engaged in open and sustained rebellion against the British government, beginning with the Battles of Lexington and Concord.

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From the archives of John Lundvall.

Where was "Crimpville" and why was it called that ?

It was North of the Charles River, High Street, Taunton Street and part of North Main. The making of boots and shoes was the major industry of the area. Shrinking or "crimping" the leather to fit the calf or leg of a person earned the section the famous name of "Crimpville". Now famous and known all over the States and some foreign countries because of the monthly paper, "Crimpville Comments."

What was the Bellingham boy, Ethan Allen, famous for ?

Pepperbox revolver. Got a patent in 1834. Most popular of the pepperboxes made.

YOU ARE OVER THE HILL IF YOU REMEMBER

Stove pokers.
Wing windows in cars.
When an old timer called a car a machine.
When your dad stopped on the road side to change and patch a tire.
When you forgot to empty the pan under the ice box.
When you didn't get junk mail.
When you picked up the phone to make a call and a voice said,"Number please."
When the car's ignition was in the dashboard.
Runningboards on all cars.
The rumble seat.
When dog food was table scraps.
When kids had names like Mary, John, Anna, Bill, Ruth, Rita, Dan & Dave.
When Lucky Strike green went to war.
When girl's bikes had mesh skirt guards over the back wheels.
When bikes had one speed - slow.
A big grate in the middle of the floor for a one piped furnace.
Clamp on roller skates with a key.
The pickle barrel in the grocery store.
When salt pork was heavily coated with salt.
Little girls used sliced beets to redden their cheeks.
When there were no fast or frozen food.
Dry ice.
The hand water pump that had to be primed to get the water.
When you'd meet most of your neighbors in the wild blu eberry patch.
When a wolf whistle wasn't an insult.
When boys wore knickers and high laced shoes.
When women wore house dresses and aprons.
Rayon stockings that stayed sitting when you stood up.
Marathon dances.
Pea shooters.
Your mom frying doughnuts.
Saw dust on grocery store floors.
Cutting your own Christmas tree and making wreaths.
Cow bells.
When dishwashers were mom and the kids.
Wringer washing machines.
S&H green stamps.
Telephone party lines.
45 R.P.M. records.
Victrolas.
Juke boxes.
Ice Cream Parlors.
Air vents on car's hoods just under the windshield.
Razor strops.
When doctors made house calls.
Fifteen minute soap operas on radio.
When milk men, bakers and butchers came to your house.
When you were issued a pencil, eraser, ruler, pen and a point the first day of school.

F.M.M.

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If you move, please send us your new address if you wish to continue to receive the Comments. The post office will not forward third class mail.

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1950

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES

REGISTRAR'S SAFETY RULES

1. LOOK BOTH WAYS - CROSS AT CORNERS ONLY
2. WALK BETWEEN THE WHITE LINES
3. WATCH TRAFFIC LIGHTS - CROSS ONLY ON PROPER SIGNAL
4. NEVER WALK BETWEEN PARKED CARS
5. NEVER PLAY IN THE STREET
6. IF THERE ARE NO SIDEWALKS - WALK ON LEFT SIDE OF ROAD
7. WEAR SOMETHING WHITE AT NIGHT
8. RIDE BIKES SINGLE FILE - ON RIGHT OBEY TRAFFIC LIGHTS - USE HAND SIGNALS - NO RIDERS

Rudolph F. King
REGISTRAR

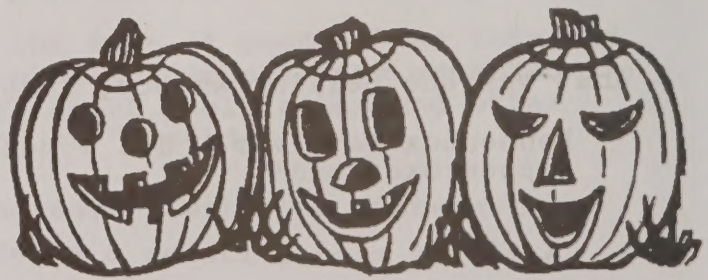


Photo Courtesy of Charlie Gerrior

SOME NOTABLE BELLINGHAM RESIDENTS - 1.

Nathan A. Cooke.

Mr. Cooke, known locally as Judge Cooke, is said to have been born in Uxbridge in 1823, although no record of his birth has been found. Bellingham records give a birth of a Nathan A. Cooke, husband of Sena, in 1828. He was the son of Nahum and Sibil (Balcom) Cooke, whose marriage intentions were filed in Douglas, Mass., on February 17, 1822. Their marriage date is not recorded. Hon. Nathan Cooke was a direct descendant of the pioneer Nicholas Cooke who was in Mendon in 1660.

When Nathan Cooke was 3 years old, his family moved to Bellingham, and for over 60 years, he lived in sight of where his father and grandfather were born.

He taught school for 17 seasons, was a Justice of the Peace for 30 years, settled many estates as a Probate Judge, and was a member of the Legislature in 1882. He was Selectman, Assessor, Town Treasurer, and attended the East Blackstone Methodist Church.

He married Sena Abigail Cook of Wrentham. Their intentions were filed March 9, 1845. Sena was the daughter of Horace and Lucretia Cook, one of a family of nine children.

Nathan Cooke died of typhoid dysentery in Medway October 5, 1896, aged 73 years, 21 days, giving a date of birth of 1823. He is buried in Rakeville Cemetery, Bellingham.

Judge Cooke left a wife and one son, N. Herbert Cook of Medway.

His wife Sena died in Medway May 26, 1897, aged 69 years, 4 months, 3 days.

.....

John Metcalf

"Crowner John" Metcalf, as he was known for his service as County Coroner, was born in Dedham in 1704, the son of John and Mehitable Metcalf. In 1728, he married, in Boston, Mary Fisher of Boston.

In 1735, he bought a part of the Rawson Grant, and became a resident of Bellingham. In 1742, he bought land of James Smith.

John Metcalf married twice, and had 13 children.

He took a leading part in the formation of the West Precinct in Medway; he was the first clerk of the Precinct, served on several important committees, and bore a large part of the the labor and building expense of the meeting house there.

His dwelling, a handsome Victorian style house, is still standing on Hartford Avenue, west of Farm Street, , and was formerly the residence of Mannie Connolly.

John Metcalf died February 22, 1791, in his 87th year, and is buried in the old cemetery in West Medway.

.....

Robert Smith

Robert Smith was born, according to some records, in 1704, the son of Peletiah Smith who in 1701 was living in West Bridgewater, Mass. In 1714, he bought Deacon Thomas Sanford's mansion house and 200 acres of land with 1/4 share of a sawmill on Stall Brook. He was a Captain in the militia, and lived on the east side of Stall Brook on the Old Mendon Road.

He married Margaret ---, who died in Bellingham November 4, 1791 aged 81.

Captain Robert Smith died in 1787, aged 83. (Another record gives his death date as March 24, 1787, aged 81).

Research shows that a son Robert, Jr., is shown in Bellingham records. He was possibly a tavernkeeper. This Robert died in 1787, aged 83. According to the Partridge History of Bellingham, he was a son of Peletiah, Jr., (1659-1757) and wife Eunice, their only son. They began the tavern near the mile marker bearing the inscription

RS 1767 31 Miles to Boston

The records further show that Robert Smith, son of Peletiah, was born in 1752; no one is now sure which is correct.

Perhaps the line was Robert-3, Robert-2, Peletiah-1.

DEATHS

Donna M. (Trainor) Carrier
David Martus
Margaret A. Kilduff
David W. Villandry Sr.
Jeanne M, Jandrue
Paul A. Sahagian Jr.
Louise M. Chaisson
Michael Masse
Russell R. Ridolfi
J. Omer Dubois
V. Margaret Bianchi
William J. Gonya
Alice C. Gilbert
Mary E. (Dore) Lewinsky
Shirlev I. Neelon
Anna (Sawyer)Gadoury
Anita L. (Carlson) Barnes
Barbara A. Plante
George W. Brown
Timothy F. Nicholson
Rosemary (Frink) Whitfield
George B. Kramer
Edgar G. Robidoux
Walter A. Lewis
Isabelle P. Stockton
Joseph B. Allard
Giuseppe DiPietro
Joann C. (Colon) Donovan
Adam J. Kozimor
Winsor C. Bates Jr.
Arlene Mendykowski
Mildred (Milly) Gorman
Joseph F. Blais Sr.
Richard J. LeBlanc

DONATIONS

Dorothy Spencer
Dorothy & Linwood Lowell
in memory of Charlotte Lowell
Jennie Kozak
Lucille Bardell
in memory of Fred Bardell
Dave & Elizabeth Andrews
Marion Shangraw
Steve Racicot
Dorothy Spencer
a Father's Day Remembrance
Florence Remillard
Isabelle Thayer
Phyllis Rhodes
Family of Mary Lewinski
in her memory
June (Hall)Merrick
Anna(Sawyer) Gadoury

THE CATCH-ALL DRAWER

Everyone has a catch all drawer and all have a house rule - never open it wher company is in the house. It seems like everything you don't know what to do with ends up there. It's usually a mess because someone is always rooting in it to find something. It's usually the first place to look and usually the item is there.My former neighbor's catchall drawer was as neat as a pin but most folks have a messy one like my own.

Many years ago when I was dating my husband, he opened his mother's 'Drawer' looking for something and I thought she was going to faint. He sure got the 'evil eye' from his mom while I was trying to stif le a laugh. We had one just like it. Just for fun, some day go through yours and see the treasures you find. Mine contains two phone books, some ancient road maps (these are interesting but don't try to follow one). There's the typical tools, A screw driver, phillip's head driver, pliers, scissors, a wrench, tacks, pins, nut, bolts, Crazy glue, a few buttons, two clothes pins, matches, faucet repair kit, shoe horn, chalk, a pruner, cork, small ball, paper punch, dog nail clippers,a belt buckle, a three pronged plug, cup holders, lint brush,, dog leash, a couple of pennies and keys to heaven knows what. The small things are in a Sucret box. My husband was great for putting tools in the drawer. When it got too heavy to open,I'd put all his tools in a bag and take them down cellar and put on his bench. Of course, ten minutes later he'd be looking for something I had just put down cellar. I threatened to put a mouse trap in there but I was afraid I'd be the first to get caught in it.

The older we get, the more we seem to accumulate. It multiplies when we're not looking. One really has to be in the mood to clean out the catch all drawer. If you throw something away, you're sure to need it tomorrow. We save that job for a rainy day but when it rains it's time to pick up a good book.

F.M.M.

Never spend your money before you have it.___

Thomas Jefferson

BLACKSTONE STREET----Before and After

This article was written mainly for those of you who grew up in Bellingham and have since moved away.

Of course, I hope that some of you who still live in the area might be interested also.

Until the 1940s, the eastern end of Blackstone St. was a dirt road. Through the '30s and '40s, neighborhood children could be found using the road as a playground...In the 30s and 40s, these children would slide from the top of the hill(COA area) all the way to Mechanic Street(Rte. 140)

Occasionally this road was used as a short-cut from So.Main St. to Mechanic St. (if one was not put off by the rough surface.)

At this time, there were but 10 houses on the street. Families living in that area were: Duncan McFarlane, Charles Bosworth, Ray Patrick, ——, ?Allie, ? Scott, ____, Eva Pitts, ?Hunter, Ed Reid....Once Blackstone St. crossed So. Main St. about the only family living there at that time were the Camerons. (Presently, there are at least 54 houses in the same area.)

As the town gradually expanded, town officials decided to pave the eastern end of the road. (There are presently 45 houseson this section of road. The houses are mainly on the northern side of the road. The southern side has blossomed with many recent town buildings, of which the town is understandably proud.

At the corner of Blackstone and So.Main Sts. was built the High School(Once our population increased and Keough School was not deemed large enough.) That building has very recently been renovated and up-dated to our first Middle School. Heading down the street, Bellingham boasts of a lovely, up-to-date Library. Within the last few years, a new High School was built (a lovely building with the latest innovations). Just beyond this is our new Council on Aging, one of the most active and up-to-date in the area. The Fire Dept/EMTs has been moved from the center of town to this area also, and next door is the Highway Dept..... It might seem that this area of our town is very commercialized and over-built, but this is not the case. It still maintains it's local/bucolic flavor.

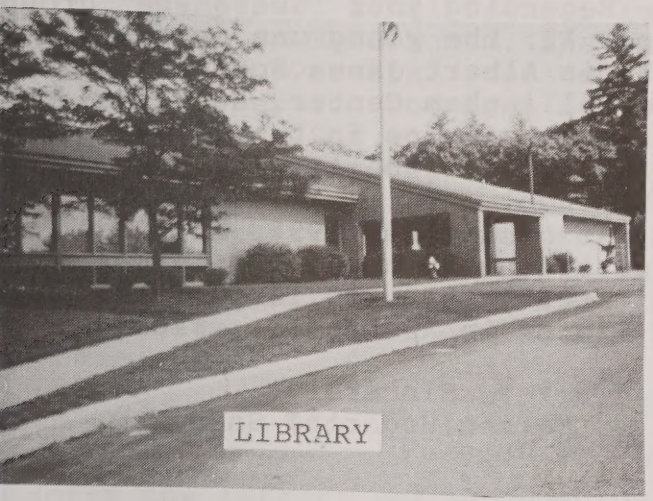
This article was prompted by the fact that traffic lights are soon to be installed at each end of the street, to alleviate current traffic congestion. It has become a short-cut for those using the Franklin RR station toget to Boston. I'm sure a similar story could be written of other roads in town. If you are a life-long resident and would like to contribute similar information, let us hear from you.

HIGH SCHOOL

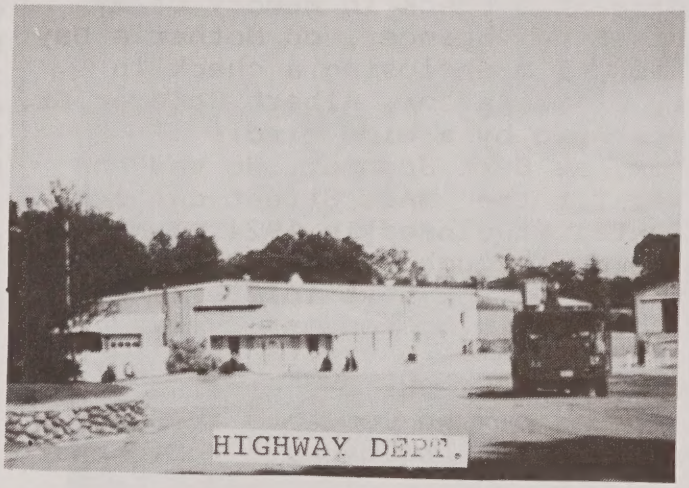
MIDDLE SCHOOL

COUNCIL on AGING

FIRE DEPT.



LIBRARY



HIGHWAY DEPT.

Cont. from archives.

Where was the first "Training Field" located in Town ?

Off Taunton Street. In 1720,77 acres was set aside for this field. The local militia trained there regularly and this was where they learned the art of what we call today as "Guerrilla Warfare."

What were the words that were painted on the old watering trough that is now at the junction of So. Main and Mechanic streets ?

"Blessed are the Merciful" was lettered on the trough. Erected in 1904. James Lilley was paid $1.25 to do the lettering !

Where was the first library in Town located and when ?

In the Eldredge home across from the Civil War Monument. Then owned by Rockwood in 1894. Moved to the Center school in 1905, then to the Town Hall in 1928 until the present building was opened in 1930.

What railroad line was nicknamed "Skunk Hollow Express" ?

The line from West Medway to the old Depot. Skunk cabbage in the swamps and the sewage odor from the Charles river created an awful odor along the way.

MAILBOX NEWS

Friends of the Historical Comm.

I sent a check in memory of my mother, Ethel Spencer, on Mother's Day.

Now, I'm enclosing a check in memory of my father, Albert Spencer,Sr. better known by a wide circle of friends, as Bert Spencer. He was the Starter for the MA&W Street car company until it closed in 1924. I have been going through the old Comments in order to find the most interesting ones to send to my cousin, Evelyn Bragg in Maine. She visited Bellingham a few years ago. She was given a few back copies of the Comments and was interested, so I told her I would share some.

I have enjoyed them all over again I have copies from 1973 on.There were pictures of us in school and one of my dad beside his street cars.

It seems there are twice as many pictures of the North and South school pictures.

One picture I personally enjoyed was of my aunts and uncle: Alice, Myrtle, Lilla and Edward Spencer. It's nice to see your elders as school children. Lilla Spencer is my cousin Evelyn's Mom.

Thank you for starting our interesting little paper. We, Al and I certainly enjoy it.

Dorothy Spencer

Dear Folks,

Enclosed please find a small donation to help with mailing costs, given in memory of our daughter, Charlotte Helen Lowell, on the 25th anniversary of her passing. It is so nice to see messages from familiar names, such as the Brown sisters, Phyllis and Janet among the many. You produce a great newsletter. Thanks for the memories.

Linwood & Dottie(Kennelly) Lowell

Dear Sirs:

Regarding your 'Guess Who" group on pg. 12; the young man on the right is Albert James Spencer who was from Bellingham Center. He was a classmate of mine in the 1939 graduating class of Bellingham's new high school.

As of October 1999, his response to the 60th reunion invitation indicated thathe was in good health and living in Auburndale, Florida.

Sincerely,
Marion(Hogarth) Shangraw

Crimpville Comments,

Please accept this donation in memory of Mary(Dore) Lewinski who passed away on June 9. She was a life-long resident of No. Bellingham and an avid reader of the Comments.

Sincerely,
Her Family

Sir:

My brother, David Condon, gave me a copy of your Crimpville Comments. I enjoyed it very much, having grown up in West Medway! Please add my name to your subscription list. Thank you for a great memory publication!

Jean A. Condon

Dear Editor of the Comments,

I am enclosing a check in memory of my Mother on Mother's Day.

I also have a picture of 4 generations which I am enclosing. I have put my name on the return envelope. It's the only picture I have of the 4.

My mother, Ethel Spencer is well-known in Bellingham. She was Librarian for several years and did Community Service for most of her married life. She worked on the Polls on election day as well.

My mother was 98 when she passed on. My cousin's mother was Lilla Spencer, born and raised in Bellingham, and attended school there

Thank You,
Dorothy Spencer

Sorry the letters got printed in the wrong order. We do appreciate them. Editor

4 Generations of the SPENCER Family

Ethel Spencer,mother
Beatrice Kollett
Carol Manzo
Judith Manzo
(taken on Mother's Day)

Dear Historic Commission;

Please find enclosed a donation on behalf of my father, William L. Foley, who greatly enjoys your publication, The Crimpville Comments. I know that he reads each issue from cover to cover. Please keep them coming.

He mentioned that he recognized his father, Timothy Foley, also of Bellingham, in a group photo published in Issue #151, pgs. 8 & 9. The picture is of a testemonial banquet to the Town Clerk Leo A. Gosselin, Oct. 24,1935.

My grandfather, whom I never met is # 59. My grandmother , Anna(Buckley) Foley, was originally from Franklin. My father, William, was born in North Bellingham on Jan 19,192?.

Many thanks for your work.

Sincerely.
Pam Foley
c/o 108 Williams St
Taunton,MA. 02780

Dear Sir;

Enclosed please find a check to help with your "Crimpville Comments". My mother enjoyed each issue so much. She died on June 13th, 2004. Her name is Anna(Sawyer) Gaboury, sister of the late Edward Sawyer, who established the Comments.

Could she be mentioned in your death column and under donations?

Many thanks for bringing so many people great reading.

Sincerely,
Leona Lantagne
(daughter of Anna)

Bellingham Historical Commission
3 Common Street
Bellingham, MA 02019

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BEFORE

AFTER

Home of Mary Ellen & Roland LaPrade 110 WRENTHAM RD.